IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as indicated:

1- 58 Canceled.

59. (previously presented)An apparatus for use while drilling a borehole, said apparatus comprising:

(a) a longitudinal member for rotating a drill bit and adapted to be conveyed in the borehole;

(b) an acoustic transmitter on a sleeve slidably coupled to said longitudinal member, and

(c) an acoustic receiver spaced apart from said acoustic transmitter, said acoustic transmitter disposed on a sleeve slidably coupled to said longitudinal member.

60. (new) The apparatus of claim 59 wherein said sleeve in (b) is the same as the sleeve in (c).

61. (new) The apparatus of claim 59 wherein said acoustic transmitter comprises a three-component transmitter.

62. (previously presented)The apparatus of claim 59 wherein said acoustic receiver comprises a three-component receiver.

63. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 59 wherein said acoustic transmitter comprises one of (A) a pulse transmitter, and, (B) a swept frequency transmitter.

64. (currently amended) A method of determining a parameter of interest of an earth formation penetrated by a borehole during drilling operations, the method comprising:

(a) conveying a bottom hole assembly (BHA) into the borehole, said BHA including a longitudinal member for rotating a drill bit thereon;

(b) maintaining an acoustic transmitter on said BHA in a substantially non-rotating position and propagating acoustic signals into said formation;

(c) maintaining an acoustic receiver on said BHA in a substantially non-rotating position and receiving an acoustic signal resulting from interaction of said propagating signals with said formation; and

~~(c)~~ (d) determining from said received acoustic signals said parameter of interest.

65. (previously presented)The method of claim 64 wherein said received acoustic signals comprise reflections from a seismic reflector in the vicinity of said borehole.

66. (previously presented)The method of claim 65 wherein said parameter of interest comprises a distance to said seismic reflector,

67. (previously presented)The method of claim 66 further comprising guiding said BHA at least partially in response to said determined distance.

68. (previously presented)The method of claim 64 further comprising maintaining said acoustic transmitter and said acoustic receiver at a specified distance from each other.